

REMARKS

The present Amendment is submitted with a Request for Continued Examination. Upon entry of the Amendment, claims 1-8, 38, 41, 42, 44, 45 and 50 are all the claims pending in the application. Claim 49 is cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 1 is amended, and new claim 50 is added. No new matter is presented.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that independent claim 38, as well as dependent claims 42 and 45 are allowed. Claims 1, 2, 5-8, 41, 44 and 49 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Mantell (U.S. Patent No. 6,189,993), and claims 3 and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mantell in view of Bain (U.S. Patent No. 4,521,786). Applicant respectfully traverses, as discussed below.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

With respect to the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Mantell, Applicant traverses and submits that Mantell fails to disclose all the features of the claimed ink jet recording apparatus.

For instance, Applicant submits that Mantell fails to disclose at least the features of a scanning controller for causing the scanning mechanism to move the recording head in the main scanning direction, wherein the scanning controller causes the scanning mechanism to move the recording head *at the same speed* irrespective of the one of the plural recording modes selected by the mode selector, as claimed. Rather, Mantell teaches a “carriage velocity selector” that

provides *different* carriage velocities based on the determination of the desired level of grayscale (e.g., print quality) and media type. (Mantell at 8:1-28).

As Mantell does not disclose all the features of the claimed ink jet recording apparatus, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is requested. With respect to dependent claims 2-8, 41, and 44, Applicant submits that these claims are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency.

As to dependent claim 49, this rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of claim 49 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

With respect to the rejection of claims 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Mantell in view of Bain, Applicant submits that these claims are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 1, as well as by virtue of the features recited therein. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this ground of rejection is therefore requested.

New Claim

In order to provide additional claim coverage merited by the scope of the present invention, Applicant is adding new claim 50, which defines an ink jet recording apparatus. Applicant submits that claim 50 is allowable at least because the feature of “the same drive signal is used in each of the basic recording mode and the high resolution recording mode, said drive signal generator generating an identical number of drive pulses for each unit print cycle of

the basic unit pixel and the fine unit pixel, wherein the size of the dot recorded in each of the basic unit pixel and the fine unit pixel is determined by the drive pulse supplier selecting a different number of drive pulses from the drive signal having the identical number of drive pulses for each unit print cycle,” is neither disclosed nor suggested by the prior art.

Mantell does not disclose a drive signal, as claimed, or the selection of a different number of drive pulses from the drive signal having an identical number of pulses in the manner defined by new claim 50. Rather, Mantell simply describes a printer controller 21 of ink jet printer 10 receiving various commands for different modes of printing from image processing system 80. Likewise, Sekiya, which the Examiner refers to in his Response to Arguments as allegedly being representative of conventional “drive signals”, would simply suggest *increasing* the number of drive signals to provide increased gradation or dot size for each unit pixel, but would fail to disclose selecting a different number of drive pulses *from the drive signal having the identical number of drive pulses for each unit print cycle*, as claimed, in combination with the remaining features of claim 50.

Accordingly, allowance of claim 50 is requested.

Conclusion

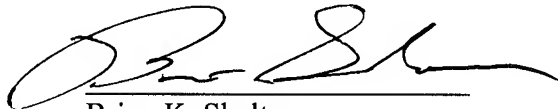
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
U.S. Application No.: 10/665,149

Attorney Docket No.: Q77106

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian K. Shelton
Registration No. 50,245

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON DC SUGHRUE/265550

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

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